

IDANG 70th ANNIVERSARY PRESENTATION AT IDAHO MILITARY MUSEUM

Wednesday 26 October will be a special briefing to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Idaho Air National Guard. This event will be at the Idaho Military Museum.

On 13 October 1946 Adjutant General Harry Abendroth approved Lt. Thomas G. Lanphier to head up a fighter squadron, and our Idaho flying unit was born. One month later, the unit—dubbed the 190th Fighter Squadron—received its first of 25 P-51 Mustang aircraft. With World War II barely over, the nation and states were wrestling with National budget issues, and problems of state-federal military relations. From this beginning, the IDANG went on to become a first class unit, and was acclaimed for its excellence. One of the IDANG's earliest members is retired Colonel Bill Coburn, who became the 190th Fighter Squadron Commander. Coburn, pictured below, standing second from left, had recently flown 30 B-17 combat missions over Germany, and was an early 'mover and shaker' in the IDANG.

Coburn will be present at this anniversary meeting, and is available to sign his new book: *Wings over Germany WWII*. Following this anniversary presentation, the Board of directors of the Museum will conduct their annual business meeting and election. Attendees are welcome to remain for this part of the meeting. For more information contact Bill Miller 208 409-5713

